This preliminary amendment is filed to replace the claims pending in the referenced application. There has been no examination of the present application following the RCE. This amendment alters the prior election of claims to a new invention, not subject to the prior restriction requirement. Claim 23 is canceled in favor of the presently claimed invention. Applicant intends to pursue the subject matter of claim 23 in a further divisional or continuation patent application. Examination and favorable consideration are requested.

Applicant cancels the previously pending claims and adds new claims 24-27. Claims 24-27 relate at least to the embodiments of the invention discussed at paragraphs 63-71. As discussed there, a non-volatile memory card may operate at different power supply voltages. Automatic detection of power supply voltages allow for the easier, wide spread use of memory card systems. This is the subject matter of new claims 24-27. None of the prior art of record to this application teach or suggest such a memory card system. As such, applicant submits that the present claims distinguish over the art of record and are in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (213) 337-6700 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,

HOGAN &HARTSON

Date: April 5, 2004

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